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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF MALTON

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1945.

MALTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Report for the year ending 31st December, 1945.

The Report has been drawn up according to the instructions of the Ministry of Health and includes the position of the Council's Housing provision at the above date.

STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS of the AREA.

There have been no alterations in the acreage of the District which comprises 4,016 acres; nor have the social conditions changed. These are those of a small market town, the more important employers of labour being two Breweries and Agricultural Implement Maker and a Manure Factory. Otherwise the population is part residential, part business and working classes, the latter being chiefly dependent upon the surrounding agricultural districts.

None of these have any particular influence upon Public Health.

The following are extracts from the Vital Statistics for the year.

Estimated Population 3,796.

| LIVE BIRTHS | { | Total | M. | F. |
|-------------|---|-----------------|----|----|
| | | Total 57 | 25 | 32 |
| | | Legitimate 45 | 17 | 28 |
| | | Illegitimate 12 | 8 | 4 |

The birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population is 15·0.

| STILL BIRTHS | { | Total | M. | F. |
|--------------|---|----------------|----|----|
| | | Total 2 | 1 | 1 |
| | | Legitimate 1 | 0 | 1 |
| | | Illegitimate 1 | 1 | 0 |

The rate per 1,000 population is 0·53.

DEATHS from all causes: Total 49. Male 21. Female 28.

The death rate per 1,000 population is 12·9.

Our Births and Deaths do not compare well with those of the Country as a whole in which the birth rate was 16·1 and the death rate 11·4. This state of affairs if continued would

lead to a further drop in our population which in 1932 was 4,416, and would appear to indicate that although all our houses are occupied, and more are required, the number in the families is smaller.

Improved conditions of housing are expected by the younger people and as these at present cannot be given quickly enough a further drop is likely to occur.

The number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1939 was 1,187 and since that time no houses have been demolished and none built.

The Rateable Value is £29,100 and the sum represented by a penny rate of £114.

Considering the detailed causes of Death :—

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Tuberculosis 1 | Cancer 3 |
| Diarrhoea under 2 years 1 | Violence 2 |

Deaths of infants under 1 year numbered 1 legitimate male, making the death rate under 1 year per 1,000 live births, 17·5 as against 46 for the whole country.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. Public Health Officers.

- (a) Medical.—One part-time Medical Officer of Health who is also Public Vaccinator.
- (b) Food Inspector. Veterinary Surgeon—part-time.
- (c) Sanitary Inspector—one.

2. Nursing in the Home.

This is provided by the District Nursing Association run by voluntary subscriptions, assisted by small fees paid by patients, and there are two Nurses who attend non-infectious cases. A grant is also received from the County Council.

These Nurses also act as—

3. Midwives for the area and take Maternity cases over a small area for the Malton Rural District as well.
4. Laboratory Facilities are now obtainable at the Ministry of Health Laboratory now situated at the County Hall, Northallerton. Those patients who can afford to do so are expected to pay the appropriate fee.

5. Hospitals.

Malton, Norton and District Hospital of 27 beds primarily for Surgical cases. This Hospital now provides for Specialists Clinics in Ear, Nose and Throats and Orthopædic.

It further has the advantage of being able to call on the Staffs of the Leeds General Infirmary and York County Hospital when necessary, whilst the Yorkshire Orthopædic Hospital at Kirbymoorside is also of assistance in special cases.

6. **Maternity Cases** can, on application to the County M.O.H. Northallerton, be admitted to Westow Croft Maternity Home originally started by the Ministry of Health; or to the Acomb Maternity Hospital.

Otherwise provision is made for unmarried mothers and illegitimate infants and homeless children by the Ryedale Guardians Committee.

7. **Infectious Diseases** are once again accommodated at the York Isolation Hospital which provides the necessary Ambulance facilities.

8. **Ambulance Facilities** in the area as a whole is provided by Ambulance.

9. **Clinics and Treatment Centre** at the Friends' Meeting House, Greengate are held as follows:—

Maternity and Child Welfare on 1st Wednesday in the Month. This also acts as an ante-natal clinic and one of the District Nurses is always in attendance.

Orthopædic Clinics by Dr. Crockatt about every two months.

Tuberculosis Clinics and Clinics for Venereal Diseases are held regularly at York County Hospital and at Scarborough Hospital.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

The Supply is plentiful and of the highest purity. It is taken from a deep well situate at Auburn Hill, Norton, pumped across the river to our Reservoir on Castle Howard Road. There it is chlorinated as a further safeguard and softened from approximately 21 degrees to 7. The result is very satisfactory.

Scavenging.

During the year a regular weekly collection of house refuse and night soil was maintained throughout the area, and in addition salvage to the value of £250 was collected and marketed.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The sewerage scheme functioned satisfactorily throughout the year, and despite additional work it was found possible to 'convert' 25 pail closets to water closets.

Rodent Control.

The work of rodent control went on throughout the year, and in addition to premises owned by the Council many other properties were treated—being discovered after a block survey of the whole district.

Housing.

During the year, although it was not possible to carry out any scheme of improvement to existing houses, some progress was achieved in the provision of new houses. A gang of labourers was employed, and at the close of the year the site works, including roads, water mains and sewers for 36 houses at Highfield Road, and 12 houses at Westgate, Old Malton were almost complete.

Plans have been formulated for the erection of 152 houses on the following sites:—

Highfield Road—66.
Westgate, Old Malton—12.
Princess Road—12.
Peasey Hills Road—62.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

- (a) Milk Supply. The Farms and Dairies in the district are inspected regularly and samples of milk examined for Bacterial content and Tubercl Bacilli.
- (b) Meat Supply. The Council now has a part-time Veterinary Officer who visits the Public Abattoir and whose report is set out below.

REPORT OF MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTOR.

All slaughtering is undertaken by the Ministry of Food at the Abattoir in Railway Street.

Daily inspections are made of all carcases and the necessary steps taken to ensure the sale of healthy meat.

All the butchers' shops in the District of Malton were frequently inspected during the year and no action was found to be necessary. A thorough examination of the various premises was made at each visit. All visits were made without warning.

The slaughter house was constantly inspected during my daily visits.

The vehicles used for the transportation of meat have been frequently inspected.

Several visits have been made to all the shops selling other food stuffs, canned and otherwise, when the goods have been under suspicion.

Visits have been made without warning to the shops selling and producing ice-cream.

A table showing the number of carcases inspected and condemned is attached.

Year Ending 31st December, 1945.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

| | Cattle. | Calves. | Sheep. | Pigs |
|------------------|---------|---------|--------|------|
| Number Killed | 1746 | 1033 | 5650 | 1011 |
| Number Inspected | 1746 | 1033 | 5650 | 1011 |

All Diseases other than Tuberculosis.

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|---|----|----|
| Excluding whole carcases condemned. | 24 | 5 | 34 | 14 |
|-------------------------------------|----|---|----|----|

| | | | | |
|---|-----|----|-----|----|
| Carcases of which some part or other was condemned. | 246 | 10 | 124 | 26 |
|---|-----|----|-----|----|

| | | | | |
|--|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. | 15·46% | 1·45% | 2·78% | 3·95% |
|--|--------|-------|-------|-------|

Tuberculosis.

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|----|---|---|---|
| Whole carcases condemned. | 23 | — | — | 2 |
|---------------------------|----|---|---|---|

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Part carcases condemned. | 6 | — | — | 7 |
|--------------------------|---|---|---|---|

| | | | | |
|---|-------|---|---|-----|
| Percentage of number inspected affected with T.B. | 1·66% | — | — | ·8% |
|---|-------|---|---|-----|

R. E. BOND.

M.R.C.V.S.

PREVALENCE OF,
AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Where it is considered that satisfactory isolation can be carried out at Home, Infectious Diseases are allowed to remain, otherwise, they are removed for Isolation to the Norton Grove Isolation Hospital provided by the Ministry as a war-time measure. This arrangement has proved quite satisfactory.

During the year the following cases were notified :—

Scarlet Fever 2.
Ophthalmic Neonatorum 1.
Diphtheria 1.
T.B. (Non-pulmonary) 1, aged 11 years.
Measles 46.
Whooping Cough 13.

By far the largest number of cases occurred in February, and the last case was notified in April.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

| | | Male. | Female. |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-------|---------|
| All causes | ... | 21 | 28 |
| Tuberculosis of Respiratory System | | 1 | |
| Cancer | ... | 3 | 10 |
| Diabetes | ... | | 1 |
| Intracranial Vascular lesions | ... | 1 | |
| Heart Disease | ... | 6 | 10 |
| Other Diseases of Circulatory System | | 1 | |
| Bronchitis | ... | 3 | |
| Pneumonia | ... | | 1 |
| Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum | | 2 | |
| Diarrhoea under 2 years | ... | 1 | |
| Digestive Disease | ... | | 1 |
| Nephritis | ... | 1 | |
| Violence | ... | 2 | |
| All other causes | ... | | 4 |

| | | Male. | Female. |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|-------|---------|
| Live Births | Total | 25 | 32 |
| | Legitimate | 17 | 28 |
| | Illegitimate | 8 | 4 |
| Still Births | Total | 1 | 1 |
| | Legitimate | | 1 |
| | Illegitimate | 1 | |
| Deaths of Infants under 1 year | Total | 1 | |
| | Legitimate | 1 | |

POPULATION 3,796.

L. C. WALKER, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
M.O.H. Cantab.

